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PYRAMIDS OF
MARS

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• Sutekh himself will arise
once more, and with fire and
violence consume the Earth and
the sky.
Behave Sutekh, for he is the
Destroyer, Lord of dust and
darkness.





The Doctor En route to UNIT HQ, the time traveller is undergoing something of a mid-life crisis: "It's high time I found something better to do than stand over the Brigades". He's melancholic and muddled but, despite having "renounced the society of Time Lords" as become "simply a traveller", he soon leaps to the defense of "the laws of the Universe": "Something's interfering with them, and mine is my business". And, in square-up against a universal threat, we see his alien nature come to the fore. His impatience with humans:—"You don't understand the implications";—and downright callous in his assessment of the wounded Lawrence Sowerby. He'll even snap at his companion—"You going to help... or are you going to stand there and admire the scenery?"—and later reveals a bad joke with a downright angry, "Don't provoke me!" All this, and his shoes need repairing....



Sarah Jane Smith Aware of the legends of Set and Horus, the Hierophyte is the tenth of Sutekh's Host, and even the lost science of "Hierophytes", immerse Egyptianogic Seth initially fails to comprehend the literally earth-shattering consequences of the events unfolding before her; and fails to just get in the TARDIS and leave. And although she finds the Doctor's egomaniacal hard to take—"A man has little regard! Sometimes you don't seem..."—with her very existence threatened she proves herself right on the mark.

"Whatever it was, I know it was totally malevolent!"



Marcus Scarman Professor of archaeology and Fellow of All Souls, explorer Marcus Scarman would have done well to heed the warnings of those "superstitious savages" who help him blunder into the world of Sutekh. Reduced to a zombie—Sutekh's "bone and bago"—some trace of his human persona nevertheless remains in memory both his oldest friend and his brother—despite friend at the moment his body gives up the ghost and comes back to start. And when servants might search in the luggage abandoned in a Cairo hotel-room, of this, the first man on Mars?

"Die. I bring Sutekh's gift of death to all humanity."



Laurence Scarman Trapped in the shadow of his powerful older sibling, is it any wonder that Laurence Scarman remains restricted at the level of a little boy? Witness his childlike glee upon examining the TARDIS, his pride when showing off his latest toy, the Marconoscope, and his continually pleasure when the Doctor casually destroys his function. Caught in a somewhere, septuagenarian pair of older sibling and juvenile simplets in priest-holes, he's usually unable to escape Marcus' living death, and duly dies by the hand of his own less-brother.

"You think I'll let you down again, don't you?"



Dr Who Tessicid and pragmatic, Dr Who's concern for Marcus, his closest friend, leads him to make enquiries in Cairo and to force his way into the Old Priory—leaving only a buffer for his insides. A no-nonsense sort of fellow, Warlock spurns Marcus's hand-shake—for such an intensely impure being! Foreigner is no problem—sad attempt to impose racism upon the otherwise benevolent, connecting the reverent Marcus with a bullish "Look here, old chap, if this is some kind of executive job..."



Numin According to the Scarman retainer Collins-Britton Numin, servant of the true-faith, has "the temper of the Devil himself"—rather apt, when one considers the subject of Numin's devotion. A reminder, via promises of a return out-of-Saint-worshipper:—"...and all my forebears, have served you totally through all the thousands of years that you have slept. We have guarded the secret of your tomb"—this organ-grinding fanatic is made terminally redundant at the behest of Ms. God.

"O noble God, your service bears you."

Sutekh His name "abominable in every civilized world, whether that name be Set, Seten, Behen", all-powerful god Sutekh—the ultimate interloper, the ultimate neopaganism—has 2000 impious, pernicious years to plot his escape. It is no surprise then, that he has thought "of everything", and that his several identities are so highly-developed. The last of the Children, the Typhonian Beast possesses awesome but unspecified powers of destruction—and would pause only in his scorching a world to pull the wings off a fly. "Your evil is my good. I am Sutekh the Destroyer. Where I tread I leave nothing but dust and darkness. I find this good."



ESTATE PLANNING IN THE EAST

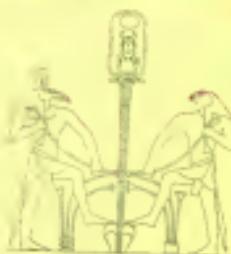


Fig 2. The god Seth (left) and Horus (right) banishing the Aby of Upper Egypt and the pyramids of Lower Egypt.

and it is true to say that there are many ancient cults still active even in modern Egypt, their members keeping centuries-old pledges to their gods, with names transferred from father to son. The remaining worshippers of Horus, for example, still warn of the prophetic return of Sutekh, a legend passed by word of mouth from generation to generation. Indeed, the modern version of the myth is almost identical to my earliest recorded form, on a First Dynasty papyrus (c. 2600 BC) found at the ancient site of Nefer, on the banks of the Nile, north of Luxor. A translation is given here, courtesy of the British Museum.

The Legend of Sarsik

"Timor past, on the great sea-grove, lived the gods of the Earth and the sky. Sutek was the god of thunder and violence, the prow of the vessel of Ra, the sun. He was disaster incarnate, and destroyed crops with fire and hell. All disasters were caused by him. He was the enemy god and the god of enemies. He was head of abominations, and the pig, the hippopotamus, the crocodile and the dog were assimilated to him.

New Sarikai was of Otagiri, against whom he fought many battles, and whom he later slew. "Behold," he proclaimed, "I am Sarikai, the master of confusion, who creates both the temper and the peace throughout the length and breadth of the kingdom."

But Galra has another son, Horus, brother to Seth, who claimed by birthright the throne of Osiris for his own. Seth had to slay one god a day with his mighty sceptre if Horus did not relinquish his claim. And so many mere battles were fought, until one fatal day when Horus and seven-hundred-and-fifty of his fellow gods tracked Seth to the ends of the Earth.

There, on the eighty-eighth day of the month of Akbar, Sandek was not the eye of Heras but was exasperated and tired by his paces. He was condemned to support Girets upon his shoulders for all eternity, and the heads of his followers were offered to the gods. Therefore, Sandek became known as The Red God, and was said to live on, undying, immortal, held by the judgment of Heras.

Yet Sankh was still venerated, and his followers were known by their marks. For such a man is one disengaged of heart on the day of judgement. The redants of the white of his eye is Sankh. And many say that his servants will one day arise and cleanse the temple of all impurities. And when this is done, then Sankh himself will arise once more. And with fury and violence, consume the Earth and the sky.

"Beware Sorelly, for he is the Destroyer, lord of death and darkness."

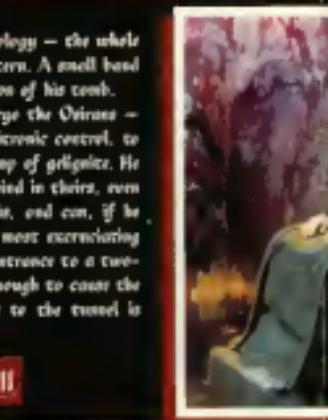
The Return of

Sever 7,000 years ago, Phaster Osiris, home to the Osirians — a super-intelligent, euharologically advanced race of beings who had “dome-shaped heads and cerebrums like spiral staircase” — was destroyed by its native, Sethkh, who went on to leave “a trail of havoc across half the galaxy”. He was hunted down by his brother Horus, God of Light, and 740 of his fellow Osirians, whose names have since been recorded on the walls of the tomb of Pharaoh Tuthmosis III. Having captured Sethkh on Earth, Horus, whose own moral code forbade him from executing Sethkh, imprisoned him beneath a blighted pyramid at Saqqara, Egypt, at around the time of the First Pharaonic Dynasty. Sethkh was held there by a force-field controlled from a power source contained inside a pyramid on Mars — the Eye of Horus. Centuries passed, the remaining Osirians died, and the rest of the Gods entered into mythology — the whole of Egyptian culture, particularly, being founded on the Osiran pattern. A small band of cultists kept his memory alive for centuries, and knew the location of his tomb.

Today, we know little about this powerful race. Sethkh — ergo the Osirians — demonstrates remarkable powers of mental projection, force, and psionic control, to the extent of being able to extract from afar the explosion of a lump of gunpowder. He has the ability to mentally possess one or more beings, placing his mind in theirs, even after the death of that individual. He has the power of telekinesis, and can, if he chooses, keep a mortal being “alive for centuries, wracked by the most excruciating pain.” His tomb contains a data retrieval unit, a scanner and the entrance to a two-way time-space tunnel — which emits a wave of energy powerful enough to cause the failure of a TARDIS’s relative continuum stabiliser. The entrance to the tunnel is



The final pages from the journal of Marcus Scarmur, April 1911



At Saqqara the ground was strewn with bleached scraps of broken pottery, shards of lime. We fell to our lifting the hot sand beneath our fingers — a waste of time, as we were later informed, the ground had been raked thoroughly by Arabs that it no longer contained anything worth looking for. And I realised that my side of the plateau upon which we were standing — all those little hollows and dead-pits — were isolated graves.

The Saqqara pyramids are all smaller than those at Giza, but no less astonishing. Zoro's great Step-pyramid — “the beginning of architecture”, as it has been called — is so immense that one altogether loses sight of its relative magnitude. It is now about six thousand eight hundred years old. According to the computations of Herodotus and Herophile, who lived a few thousand eight hundred years ago, the

The Story of Civilizations of the East

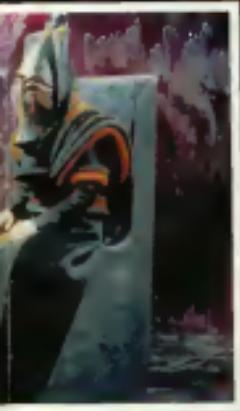


f the Red God

body-trapped with a parallel coil. Entering the tomb triggers an alarm signal transmitted by radio waves in an automatic, regular pattern from Mars: "BEWARE SUTEKH". The message can be translated through the letter 'E', the most common in the English language.

Osiros technology extends to service robots - servitors, servitors, and "Osirions of Horus" - which are easily controlled via a ring containing a slave relay. They draw their energy from a particle particle accelerator, and their bindings are chemically impregnated to protect the robots against damage or corrosion. The Osirions can place a deflection field - an impenetrable, invisible barrier - around a geographical location.

The field is controlled by four gamma loops placed at the compass points. Deactivating a loop without the correct key is incredibly dangerous. An Osirion war missile travels by transposing with its projection, a process described as "pyramid power" and includes a co-ordinate selector, a projection dome monitor, a resonating tuner, an anti-gravity drive, a warhead trigger charge and a detonation head. The Martian pyramid's doors are operated by tri-physics - the making of a music gesture before them - and beyond are a number of logic puzzles and traps, including a lethal decalree crucible, which only releases its occupant upon the successful completion of the infernal "Riddle of the Osirions". The Eye of Horus lies in the central centre, an antechamber beneath the main pyramid.



unhurried third pyramid lay there for the taking. I was astonished - while those fools at Luxor were wallowing in the sand for relics from the pitifully exhausted Valley of the Kings, here at Saqqara an unopened pyramid stood neglected! - and I quickly assembled a team of my hands.

The next day, I started some of the tombs nearby (remarkably, four were dedicated to the First Dynasty kings, rather to the ancient gods). I came across many references to Horus, Osiris and - most perplexingly - Sutekh. For Sutekh, surely, was the name ascribed to Set, or Seth, or Aos, by the Hyksos people, who invaded circa 1670 BC - some fifteen hundred years after these tombs were built - and who identified Set with their own god of war, Baal. And Saqqara was far from any previously-known centre of Set worship - the Eastern Delta, as the tombs were



Osiris



Horus



... reads upon the bank of such a gulf of time
Northwest of here lies the pyramid of Teti. Although
most of the kings who followed Teti were buried to the
south, several of their tombs were situated in a sort of
tomb belt here, linked by an avenue of now-deserted
Splendor to the great Serapeum. Listening in upon a
conversation at the newly-discovered site of Antiquities, I heard
of a cluster of First Dynasty tombs further northwest, below the
city of Abu Sir. Apparently, excavation there had ceased many
years before - around the time of Menes, in fact - in



hasten to stir things up with
his friends at the Bureau see
strangers - and campaign for my
expulsion! - were I not to leave
these sites be.

I was only put out for, the
previous day, I had chanced a step
at into the rock in the area of
those earlier excavations, just southwest
of that same, unopened, black
pyramid. This search too good to
be true, but a short amount of
scrapping had revealed that we were

actually in the entrance of a step cut in the rock,
some thirteen feet below the depth of the First Dynasty
tombs nearby. The manner of cutting was that of the
under-stairway entrance so common in the Valley of the
King, and I almost dared to hope that I had chanced
upon the entrance to a mastaba, a burial-chamber
hidden beneath the underneath pyramid itself! Such a
prospect - couched with the eyebrows nearly - had led
me to speculate that I might have discovered a little-known
unmagnified branch of the cult of Sutekh, and that this
unopened pyramid might conceal the tomb of their High
Priest! ... I kept my surprise quiet, for mention of
Sutekh - the Satan of ancient Egypt - plainly still had

the power to do
I stuck i
Sutekh, hunting
I read of his
god, of how
that down low
was thought to
human being
of a jaded
the best
which he did
"As to any
sites in here
I gather

headed back
Name that
coupled. So
unconscious
little fire
laborer, to
of that un
black pyra
right lie

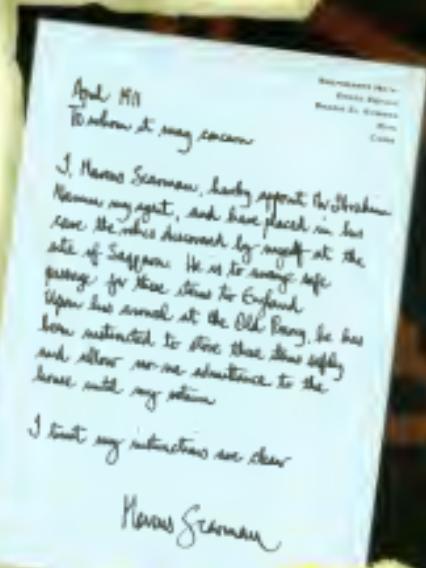
of his Histories, observed the rites of the Aten cult and its priests who often re-enact the little Amun Set and his opposite. A mystery! I consulted a fellow at the Inspectorate, Nenius, who grew most agitated at my inquiries, and attempted to dissuade me from my studies. And shortly thereafter, I returned to the site to discover the first Dynasty tombs closed and guarded - through Nenius' intervention, I suspect. I confronted Nenius, who alleged that my work was causing no small unrest amongst the villagers of Abu Sir, and hinted that he would not

Sutki

to some suspect among the local folk.
Much to my looks I read on, read of Sutki's
reign evidently from the side of Net, his mother
the legendary reputation as the unscrupulous
who the Greeks had equated him with Typhon,
was born to play Zeus. I read of how Sutki
failed to be able to take on the form of a
being, but with the typical head and snake
tail. I read of Horus, and his battles with
it. And I read Karibibhopash's pyramids, in
he describes "The Heres of the Followers of Seth".
Any man who opposes him be pushed. However
I know such he is placed in the Netherworld.
I gathered up my things, and
back to Cairo having secured
that my work was
done. But I much to return
unconscious and, quickly, with
fuss and some discreet hush
, to complete the excavation
at sunken stairway beneath that
pyramid, and find whatever wonderful things
lie beyond it.



The sunken
stairway entrance



MYSTERY DISAPPEARANCE IN EGYPT

British Archaeologist Vanishes

"The Curse Of Osiris?"

CHAS. THURSTON
THE FAMED ARCHAEOLOGIST Professor Marcus Scammon has been reported missing from
his home in Giza, British Embassy officials have confirmed. Professor Scammon had prepared his
return to England in January of this year.

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